BY MESSRS. H. KRISHNAMURTHIACHAR,—(Mulbagal Municipality) and K. SHAMA RAO,—(Mulbagal Taluk).

Q.—11. Will the Government be pleased to state whether certain discrepancies which have occurred in the financial dealings of the Mulbagal Municipality have come to the notice of Government? If so, what action has been taken?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, LOCAL AND LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENTS.—

A.—11. Yes. Government have passed orders on the irregularities brought to their notice.

BY MESSRS. H. KRISHNAMURTHIACHAR,—(Mulbagal Municipality) and K. SHAMA RAO,—(Mulbagal Taluk).

Q.—12. Who was the Polling Officer at the time when the Municipal elections were held three years ago? Was he not one of the candidates for election? Can such a candidate be appointed also as a Polling Officer? Was this fact brought to the notice of Government? If so, how was it disposed of?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, LOCAL AND LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENTS.—

A.—12. The report received from the Deputy Commissioner shows that the previous Vice-President who was himself a candidate for election of Councillors acted as a Polling Officer and conducted the election. The matter was brought to the notice of Government. The Vice-President seems to have acted as a Polling Officer and conducted the election under the directions of the President who was away from the station and who had power under the rules to appoint a Polling Officer.

As the complaint did not proceed from persons who competed at the election and as no corrupt practice as defined in the rules was apparent from the proceedings, the election was approved.

Supplementary questions.

Mr. Krishnamurthiachar.—

With reference to Q. 12, will Government be pleased ot say whether a candidate at a municipal election can be a Pol-